

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing and favorable consideration of the subject application, in light of the following remarks, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action Summary PTOL-326 form, included with the Office Action dated April 11, 2008, indicated that claims 1-19 are pending. This statement, however, is incorrect because it fails to take into consideration the Preliminary Amendment that was filed along with the present § 371 Application on April 28, 2006. In that Preliminary Amendment, *inter alia*, claims 16-19 were canceled and new claims 20-23 were added. Accordingly, the claims presented herein take into account all of the amendments set forth in the Preliminary Amendment of April 28, 2006.

By the present amendment, claims 8 and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter recited therein. No new matter has been added.

Turning now to the Examiner's requirement for restriction, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, the invention defined by the Examiner as Group I -- claims 1-8. Claims 20-21 are dependent upon claim 2. Thus, claims 20-21 should also be included with the claims of elected Group I. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to any of the non-elected subject matter.


In view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions related to this Amendment and Reply, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed telephone number concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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